

2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND 2013 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

This section of the budget document has been included in an effort to provide feedback on how the county is accomplishing the goals as set forth in the 2012-2015 Lewis County Strategic Plan. Each strategic goal has been listed below followed by the 2012 accomplishments and 2013 goals as provided by offices and departments.

LAW AND JUSTICE

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology/Training: In 2012, the Prosecutor's Office continued to increase the use of technology to better communicate with law enforcement, courts and juries. We have cut staff, saved money while increasing productivity and obtaining better results. We also were able to shift a full time criminal position to ½ time civil and ½ time criminal. This allows us to better assist the county with pressing civil issues. We also continued to provide training and updates to law enforcement throughout the county.

2013 Goals:

Technology/Training: Continue to increase the use of technology in the courtroom and in the office. By further integrating technology into our jobs, we will continue to communicate better and more efficiently with all of those involved. While many large cases loom before us, the staff (attorneys and support staff) is in place to properly and effectively handle those cases. On the civil side, we continue to address the multiple issues that face the county on a regular basis. In addition, we continue to be proactive in addressing areas before they become issues.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Public Safety: We continue, along with law enforcement, to hold those accountable who choose to break the law. In the civil arena, by adding a ½ time deputy, we are able to address properties that create a risk to public safety. Through a grant, we, along with Thurston County, co-sponsored a Human Trafficking Seminar that brought national leaders, federal, state and local law enforcement/prosecution representatives to receive training and information on the issue.

2013 Goals:

Public Safety: Continue to provide quality service to help ensure that Lewis County is a great place to live, work and play. In response to a recent rash of underage drinking incidents, this office is working with the Lewis County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) and Health department to address the issue in the community. This office also continues to work on the human trafficking issues and will, soon, be talking to school leaders regarding training for their teacher/counselors and staff regarding the issue.

Central Services

2012 Accomplishments:

High Utilizer Identification Program: Worked with mental health and chemical dependency service providers to develop a tracking and reporting system in the Countywide Dispatch System. This system identifies high user individuals which allow first responders other options for resolution instead of the traditional arrest and incarceration.

Emergency Action Plans: Worked with staff to develop Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for Lewis County buildings for emergencies, especially the Law and Justice Bldg. which houses the Lewis County Court System.

2013 Goals:

High Utilizer Identification Program: Continue to work with service providers to identify those individuals classified as "High Utilizer" individuals and work towards programs which provide first responders options for care and custody.

Emergency Action Plans: Continue to work with county staff to further develop EAP for other buildings in the county.

Community Development

2012 Accomplishments:

Safety:

- Initiated development of a Public Services Building Safety and Evacuation Plan.
- The airports operated by Lewis County are available for air evacuations and fire suppression.
- Personnel certified as a Class C Operator- WA Underground Storage Tank Facility.

Emergency Preparedness: Certified floodplain manager on staff. Building inspectors are trained to respond to disasters and post disaster recovery including earthquake, flooding and wind damage.

2013 Goals:

Safety:

- o Complete and distribute the public services building safety and evacuation plan.
- o Update the South County Airport Master Plan to insure that this facility continues to be a viable public safety feature.

Emergency Preparedness: Maintain certifications that allow this department to provide qualified responders to incidents that require our expertise.

Public Works

2012 Accomplishments:

Emergency Preparedness & Response: Public Works has created a management tracking list in order to be better prepared and ready when an event occurs. Every September 1st Road Maintenance will: track and update after-hours emergency contact notebooks and will conduct a meeting with local agencies on or about September 1st. We will also, review our newly created equipment maintenance checklist (to ensure all equipment that may reasonably be anticipated to be used in an emergency is fully operational) and update culvert stockpiles (Central Stores). We have added texting capability for road supervisors' smart phones and are currently testing a cell phone booster in one supervisor's vehicle. If the test is successful, we will provide cell phone boosters for all supervisors' vehicles. In working with the Auditor to determine how best to purchase food or other immediately necessary supplies in the case of emergency events, it was determined that a "maintenance credit card" should be applied for and dedicated for use in these situations. We have applied for and received a purchasing credit card in Road Maintenance to have the ability to quickly purchase food and water for employees in the event of long, after-hours work.

2013 Goals:

Emergency Preparedness & Response: Complete testing of cell phone booster and implement if proven effective.

Public Safety: Add water level visual gauges on key roads, which may be inundated by water, allowing the traveling public to gauge the water level before attempting to traverse flooded roadways.

Code Red: Work with 911 Center to utilize code red to notify target populations in an emergency situation.

Inter-County Coordination: Continue to build our relationship with the Sherriff's Office, working with Deputy Tim English to provide support in emergency situations.

Legislation: Monitor new and proposed state and federal legislation to ensure that the legislation is in the best interest of Lewis County and the traveling public.

Sheriff's Office

2012 Accomplishments:

High Utilizer Identification Program: As listed in the LC Strategic Plan goal #1: the objective is to develop, implement and maintain a "High Utilizer" identification, classification and action program that reduces recidivism within the Criminal Justice System by working with mental health and chemical dependency service providers to define high utilizers. In 2012 we developed a rating system and implemented it for about 6 months during the year.

Statistical data: This project is ongoing and the estimated cost for a part time employee for the High Utilizer Identification Program and to create the data mining resource for statistical data is approximately \$30,000.

Coordinated Services: Coordinate with local mental health professionals to provide transition services to inmates in need of mental health and chemical dependency care.

Community Safety Meetings: Participated in community meetings to provide input to participants to ensure post incarceration services.

Emergency Action Plan: Developed and implemented the Lewis County Government Emergency Action Plan. This 2012 goal was declared accomplished in September of 2012.

2013 Goals:

High Utilizer Identification Program: A high utilizer identification program is still applicable and needs to be implemented but there is a lack of resources at this time.

Coordinated Services: Continue to coordinate services with local mental health professionals to provide transition services to inmates in need of mental health and chemical dependency care.

Community Safety Meetings: Work to gather data on incoming prisoners who may screen as needing mental health services and provide data to the Prosecutor and courts to assist with community placement and services.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Training and Efficiencies: This office continued to provide training to various law enforcement agencies throughout the county to allow them to have the necessary knowledge about changes in the law and current issues to better serve the public. As addressed above, we are teaming up to address underage drinking. On the civil side, we continue to advise the various departments to allow them to better serve the public and are addressing property issues throughout the county to better protect the public.

2013 Goals:

Training and Efficiencies: In 2013, we strive to continue to better serve the public. This office will continue with a fiscally conservative approach while still allowing us to better and more efficiently provide services to the public as stated above.

Central Services

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology: Installed and implemented a "Smart Kiosk" in the first floor lobby of the Historic Courthouse to assist the public in locating services.

Safety: Worked with the City of Chehalis to install new high visibility pedestrian crossing signage for the crosswalk between the Law and Justice Center and Historic Courthouse.

2013 Goals:

Technology: Continue to develop technology to assist the public in finding those county services needed in an efficient and effective manner.

Safety: Continue to develop pedestrian safety measures for both our employees and the public who visit the county campus.

Community Development

2012 Accomplishments:

Permit Software: Evaluated the compatibility of Adept (permit software) with electronic payment of permit fees. Once the inconsistencies are resolved with Adept, this can be further pursued.

2013 Goals:

Permit Software: Implement the option of accepting payment of permit fees by credit/debit card.

Public Works

2012 Accomplishments:

Adept Permitting: Public Works completed the long-term development and testing phases and are now on-line and actively using the Adept permitting software which streamlines the process for the public and allows for cross referencing of permits between departments.

2013 Goals:

Adept Permitting: Continue to update this program, as needed, for on-going software improvements.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health & Social Services

2012 Accomplishments:

Affordable Care Act: Continued to receive information and updates on how implementation of the Affordable Care Act will affect our department and the county.

2013 Goals:

Outreach: Increase effectiveness of social, medical, behavioral and preventive health services available in the county.

Complete Needs Assessment: Work to increase effectiveness of social, medical, behavioral and preventive health services available in the County. We will begin a community wide needs assessment, working with our health and social service partners in the county and have the assessment either completed or near completion by the end of 2013.

Affordable Care Act: Increase effectiveness of social, medical, behavioral and preventive health services available in the county – prepare for full implementation of the Affordable Care Act, which starts in January of 2014.

CAPITAL FACILITIES

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology: In 2012, with the assistance of the IT Department, we were able to make the second, third and fourth floors of the Law and Justice Center wireless compatible for both in-house and public use. This allows better flexibility when conducting functions associated with the office.

Central Services

2012 Accomplishments:

Future Planning: Purchased land in anticipation of future additional parking for both employees and citizens who visit the county campus.

2013 Goals:

Future Planning: Continue to acquire the necessary land for future development of both additional parking and to support the future relocation of the Juvenile Detention Center.

Community Development

2012 Accomplishments:

Comprehensive Plan: Worked with the directors of Central Services, Budget/Fiscal Services and the County Engineer to identify public facilities and services to be considered and included in the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

2013 Goals:

Comprehensive Plan: Continue working with the directors of Central Services and Budget/Fiscal Services and the County Engineer to identify public facilities and services to be considered and included in the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Public Works

2012 Accomplishments:

Leudinghaus Bridge Replacement: Established a preferred bridge site and secured design and construction funding. Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) started the environmental review process.

2013 Goals:

Leudinghaus Bridge Replacement: FEMA will complete the environmental assessment of preferred bridge site. We will finalize bridge design in 2013 with construction to follow in 2014.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Collaboration: On the criminal side, we continue to team with law enforcement in the battle against crime to make Lewis County a more attractive place to live, work and play. On the civil side, we continue to work with various entities to make Lewis County more attractive for businesses to operate and for families who are considering living here.

2013 Goals:

Collaboration: We intend to continue down the path outlined above.

Community Development

2012 Accomplishments:

Subarea planning: Continued work on the South County Subarea Plan.

2013 Goals:

Land Use Code: Discuss revisions to Title 17, Land Use and Development Regulations. The goal of this project is to make the code easier to use and understand by all users.

Development: Collaborate with the Department of Public Works and interested stakeholders to identify areas suitable for economic development and the infrastructure necessary to support that development.

Public Works

2012 Accomplishments:

Vader Water System: Completed the main construction phase of previously identified improvements for the Vader/Enchanted Valley Water System.

2013 Goals:

Sewer: Continue development of Packwood Sewer.

Vader Water System: Amend the Vader/Enchanted Valley Water System Plan to realize the secured ability to provide service to a greater number of users due to the replacement of the brittle asbestos cement water mains. This amendment will allow for additional water connections and further development within the water service area.

Infrastructure: Continue to work with the communities of Toledo, Winlock and Vader to provide for infrastructure development for economic development.

- Meeting and coordinating with Ritchie Brothers to make sure they have infrastructure in place to serve their needs into the future.
- IPAT - Working with Industrial Park at Trans Alta (IPAT) to determine access and infrastructure needs and develop adequate facilities to serve industrial development. This process will include initiating the feasibility studies of a new interchange off Interstate 5.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Prosecutor

2012 Accomplishments:

Budget: We continue to fulfill our role as outlined in the RCW's. In addition, this office identified new revenue streams that had not before been used. As a result, this office created revenue in excess of \$67,000 to the county.

2013 Goals:

Budget: In 2013, we will continue to fulfill our role and attempt to identify additional revenue streams to lessen the strain on the county's budget. While the proper team is in place, we must find ways to retain those that have chosen public service as their career.

Assessor

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology: The Assessor's Office collaborated with Public Works and other entities to introduce Pictometry for the purpose of enhancing the ability for assessment of property, public safety and county efficiencies.

2013 Goals:

Technology: We will work to solidify the contract with Pictometry in time for a 2013 collection of aerial photographs and installment of the program for use by the stakeholders.

Budget/Fiscal Services Department

2012 Accomplishments:

Strategic Plan Update: This process was managed by the Budget Department to plan future goals and strategies for the county. A new plan was developed to cover 2012-2015.

Budget: The budget process was managed in accordance with state law and county resolution. Cost saving measures were analyzed and suggested to the Board for the decision making process.

Fiscal Efficiency: This division provides accounting services to departments that report to the BOCC. Fiscal strives to provide the highest level of service to both internal and external customers. Multiple processes were reviewed in 2012 in an effort to make constant improvements in how we provide these services.

2013 Goals:

Financial Policies: The Budget Director, Treasurer and Auditor's Office will write financial policies to be approved by the BOCC. These new policies will focus on providing long-term sustainable levels of service that correlate to funding levels.

Budget: Manage the budget process for 2013 and 2014 in accordance with state law. Research mandated and non-mandated county programs as well as service levels for the budget decision making process.

Central Services

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology: Improved government efficiency and effectiveness through the installation and deployment of a campus Wi-Fi system in key areas to allow staff to work more efficient and effectively with the public.

Financial System: Continued the development and conversion of the new Financial System Software program.

2013 Goals:

Technology: Continue to expand the county campus Wi-Fi system.

Financial System: Continue working with the software developers on the configuration and deployment of the county finance system software.

Community Development

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology: Refined Adept permit software and trained Public Works staff.

Records Retention: Scanned current and historical building permits, plans and planning records. The scanned records were transferred to a fire proof building.

2013 Goals:

Technology: Build upon the Adept software by launching the reporting feature.

Records Retention: Continue to scan current and historical building permits, plans and planning records to reduce office storage space demands.

Public Works

2013 Goals:

Cascade Software: we are working within the Cost Accounting Management System (CAMS) to develop daily time sheets and purchasing an engineering module for estimating, bidding, and contract management.

Pictometry: Expand internal and external government services as well as enhance the county's emergency response capabilities by purchasing and maintaining Pictometry software as well as high resolution aerial and oblique photography.

Electronic Records Management: Continue to explore options to solve the electronic file management issues in Public Works and hopefully expanding that program to the County in 2015.

ESA Regional Road Maintenance Program: In 2012, Lewis County applied for and was accepted into the Environmental Species Act (ESA), Regional Road Maintenance Program. This is a program that will streamline road maintenance projects in areas with ESA listed species.

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

Weed Control

2012 Accomplishments:

Support/Outreach/Community: Supported landowners, businesses, agencies and tribes across three watersheds (Chehalis, Cowlitz, and Nisqually) with the management of noxious weeds impacting their land and natural resources. Assistance went to landowners managing lands for forage/livestock, timber, minerals, Christmas trees, horticulture/agronomic crops and home landscapes. Outreach was also directed to private landowners and agencies to manage new noxious weeds, as part of an Early Detection, Rapid Response (EDDR) Program.

Weed Management: Performed management of invasive aquatic noxious weeds by working with landowners, agencies and weed management working groups to manage priority weeds along the Chehalis, Cowlitz and Nisqually Rivers. We collaborated with Lewis County PUD and the United States Forest Service/Cowlitz Valley Ranger District and other agencies to educate youth and citizens about invasive aquatic species.

2013 Goals:

Weed Management: Sustain the natural resources of Lewis County with negligible impact from noxious weeds and invasive pests. Provide a range of weed management resources to new and existing businesses, landowners and citizens that support the state wide mandate for noxious weed control. Management of noxious weeds will limit the degrading impacts that they can have on natural resource based business (forestry, production agriculture & small farm enterprises) that provide an economic base for Lewis County. Noxious weed management will also provide additional economic benefit in the areas of recreation and tourism by maintaining a diversity of species for healthy forest ecosystems.

Public Health & Social Services

2012 Accomplishments:

Budget Tracking: Our department continues to refine our budget tracking spreadsheet and have been able to save some costs by using the tracking format and learning more on how some items are charged, such as phone services.

Strategic Plan: Completed and implemented the 2012 work plan associated with our department strategic plan.

2013 Goals:

Cost Allocation Plan: Complete and obtain approval, by WA State Department of Health (DOH), a department indirect cost allocation plan as recommended during our two previous DOH fiscal reviews.

Strategic Plan: Implement the 2013 work plan associated with our department strategic plan.

Public Works

2012 Accomplishments:

Flood Mitigation: Lewis County Public Works was assigned two flood mitigation projects; Adna (Rails to Trails) Levee Ditch Re-grade and Airport Levee Base Widening. We have achieved 90% design, with final permitting and construction to occur in 2013.

2013 Goals:

Continuing Projects: Complete the Adna (Rails to Trails) Levee Ditch Re-grade Project and the Airport Levee Base Widening Project.

Sheriff's Office

2012 Accomplishments:

Technology:

- In 2012 a video visit system was implemented in the Jail. We also completed updates to Amber Alert, Emergency Alert System and the Lewis County Counter Terrorism, and Hazardous Material Plans.
- The Sheriff's Office also implemented the use of Facebook as an electronic communications tool to communicate with the public.
- We were the first county to beta-test and implement the state online weapons program.

Training:

- Facilitated and participated in the Pacific Panda full scale Region 3 Homeland Security (HLS) exercise.
- Created, facilitated and participated in the Lewis County Coroner's Office table top and functional mass fatality exercise.

- Created, facilitated and participated in the Lewis County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Hazardous Material tabletop exercise.
- Expanded the Reserve Deputy and Sheriff Volunteer Programs.

2013 Goals:

Technology: Implement video arraignment system with municipal courts to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and safety.

Training and efficiencies:

- Expand K9 Program by acquiring one additional criminal apprehension dog and one drug dog. Continue expansion of Reserve Deputy and Sheriff Volunteer Programs.
- Facilitate School Rapid Responder Plans update with school superintendents.
- Continuously seek more efficient and effective ways to accomplish the LCSO mission.

Budget: Track law enforcement-related bills through 2013 legislative session.

WSU Lewis County Extension

2012 Accomplishments:

Outreach Education: Supported and partnered with landowners, businesses, agencies across Lewis County to bring outreach education programming ranging from gardening to composting, food safety and preservation to youth development via 4-H. Annual events and workshops include Gardening for Everyone, Master Gardener Plant Sale, Plant & Insect Clinics, Forestry Stewardship series, Beekeeping Series in partnership with the Lewis County Beekeepers Association; the development of the Southwest WA Mycological Society. We function as a knowledge brokerage agency, welcoming our community members to seek information to better their quality of life.

2013 Goals:

Provide outreach education programs, workshops and volunteer opportunities to the community members of Lewis County in the areas of forestry, small farms/livestock, gardening, food safety & preservation, and youth development.